



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*



*Terminal Effects Division*

# **A Computational Study to Determine the Critical Velocity Required to Initiate Explosively Loaded Munitions**

William Lawrence

U. S. Army Research Laboratory

Weapons and Materials Research Directorate

Explosive Technology Branch

Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*



*Terminal Effects Division*

# OUTLINE

- **BACKGROUND**
- **OBJECTIVES**
- **PROJECTILES**
- **TARGETS**
- **CODE**
- **MODEL**
- **RESULTS**
- **CONCLUSIONS**



# OBJECTIVES



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- **UNDERSTAND THE EFFECTS OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF COVER PLATES ON THE INITIATION PROCESS**
- **ASSESS THE VULNERABILITY OF MUNITIONS AGAINST VARIOUS TYPES OF THREATS**
- **PREVENT THE COMMUNICATION AMONG THE MUNITION ROUNDS**
- **DETERMINE CRITICAL VELOCITY**



# BACKGROUND

*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- ♦ **STRONG SHOCK BY THE PROJECTILE IMPACT CAN DETONATE EXPLOSIVE IN THE MUNITIONS**
- ♦ **SHOCK MAGNITUDE AND DURATION VERY IMPORTANT**
- ♦ **PROJECTILE DIAMETER AND IMPACT VELOCITY MAIN PARAMETERS**
- ♦ **LARGE DIAMETER PROJECTILE MORE EFFECTIVE INITIATING THE EXPLOSIVE**
- ♦ **CONDITIONS FOR SHOCK-TO-DETONATION TRANSITION DESCRIBED BY JACOBS-ROSLUND EQUATION**



# BACKGROUND



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- **RESPONSE OF HIGH EXPLOSIVE TO PROJECTILE IMPACT IMPORTANT TO ASSESS VULNERABILITY OF MUNITIONS**
- **THICKNESS OF THE COVER PLAYS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN PREVENTING THE REACTION**
- **CRITICAL VELOCITY PRINCIPALLY A FUNCTION OF THE PROJECTILE'S DIAMETER**
- **CRITICAL VELOCITY: MIN VEL OF THE PROJ TO DETONATE THE EXPLOSIVE**



# JACOBS-ROSLUND EQUATION



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

$$V = A/d^{0.5}(1+B)[1+CT/d]$$

A: Constant based on the sensitivity of the impacted explosive to shock compression

B: Constant based on the projectile nose shape

C: Cover material constant

d: Diameter of the projectile

T: Cover plate thickness

V: Critical velocity to detonate the explosive

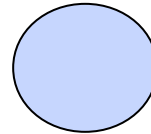


# PROJECTILES



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*



SPHERE



CYLINDRICAL  
HEMI-NOSE



CYLINDRICAL  
FLAT-NOSE



CYLINDRICAL  
POINTED-NOSE

DIAMETER: 5 - 15 mm, LENGTH: 25.4 - 100 mm

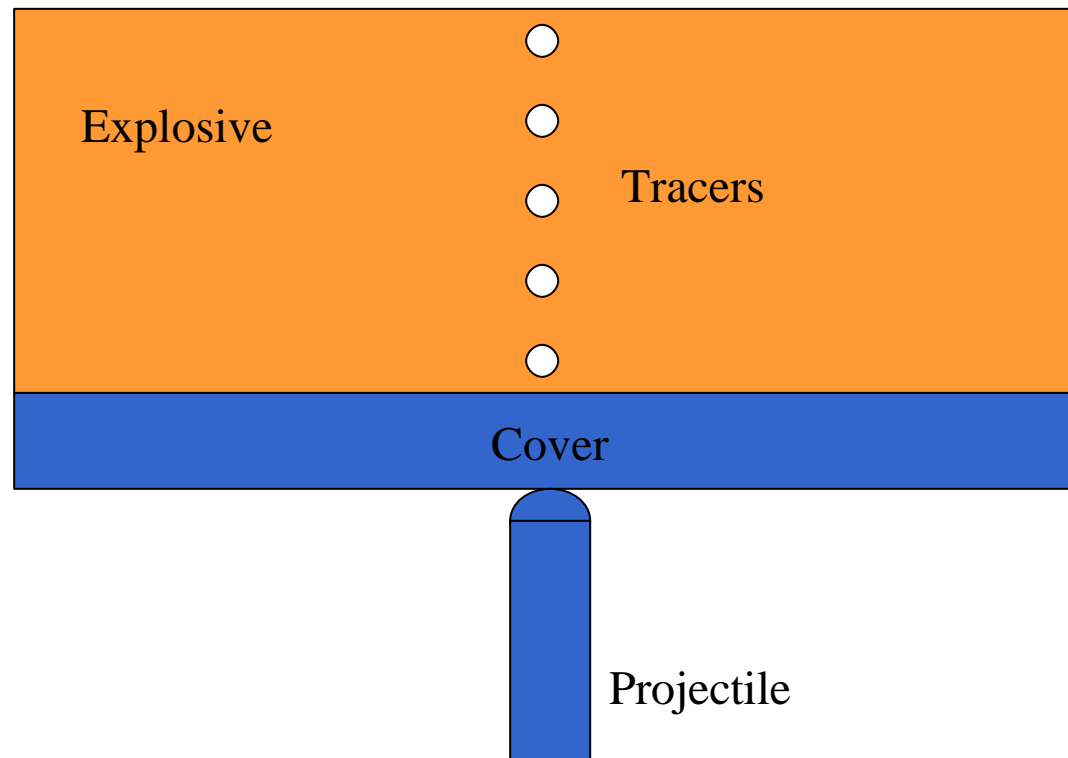


# Projectile Impacting the Target



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*







# CTH AND HVRB



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- .. **DEVELOPED BY SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORY**
- .. **FINITE DIFFERENCE ANALOGS OF LAGRANGIANS EQUATIONS**
- .. **CAPABLE OF MODELING DYNAMICS OF**
  - **MULTIDIMENSIONAL SYSTEMS**
  - **MULTIPLE MATERIALS, LARGE DEFORMATIONS AND STRONG SHOCK WAVES**
- .. **USES MIE-GRUNEISEN, JWL AND SESAME EOS, JOHNSON-COOK, AND ZERILLI-ARMSTRONG MODELS**



# CTH AND HVRB



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- ♦ **THREE REACTION AND TWO POROSITY MODELS**
- ♦ **HVRB IS ONE OF THE THREE REACTION MODELS**
- ♦ **HVRB DESIGNED TO TREAT PROCESS OF INITIATION OF DETONATION IN HE**



# CONFIGURATIONS



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division

Cover	h/d	Projectile
h		d
mm		mm
1.250	0.2500	5.00
2.500	0.5000	5.00
5.000	1.0000	5.00
2.250	0.2250	10.00
5.000	0.5000	10.00
10.000	1.0000	10.00
3.750	0.2500	15.00
7.500	0.5000	15.00
15.000	1.0000	15.00
4.763	0.1875	25.40
4.763	0.1875	25.40
4.763	0.1875	25.40

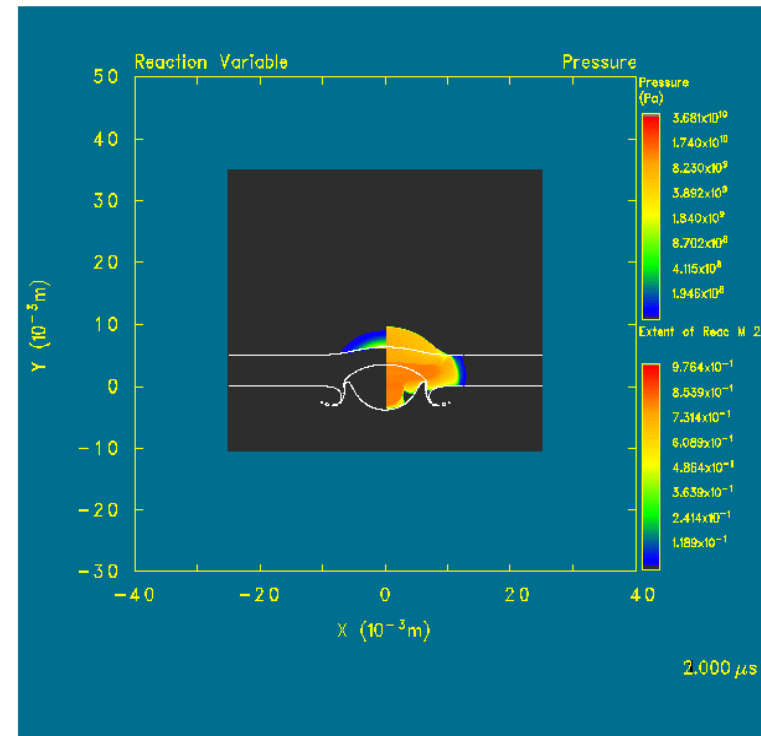
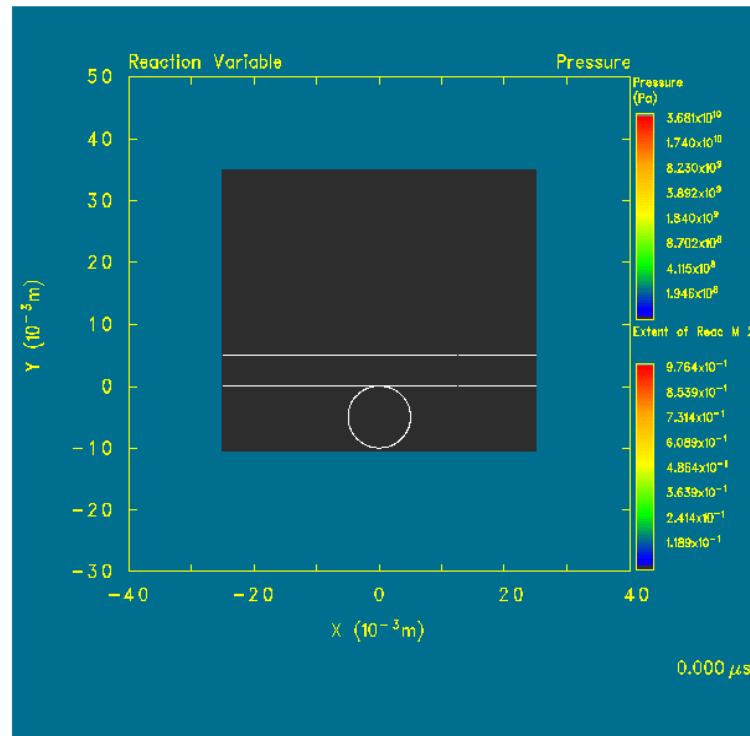


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



5-mm Spherical Projectile at 3.1-mm/μs  
Impacting Comp B with 5-mm cover

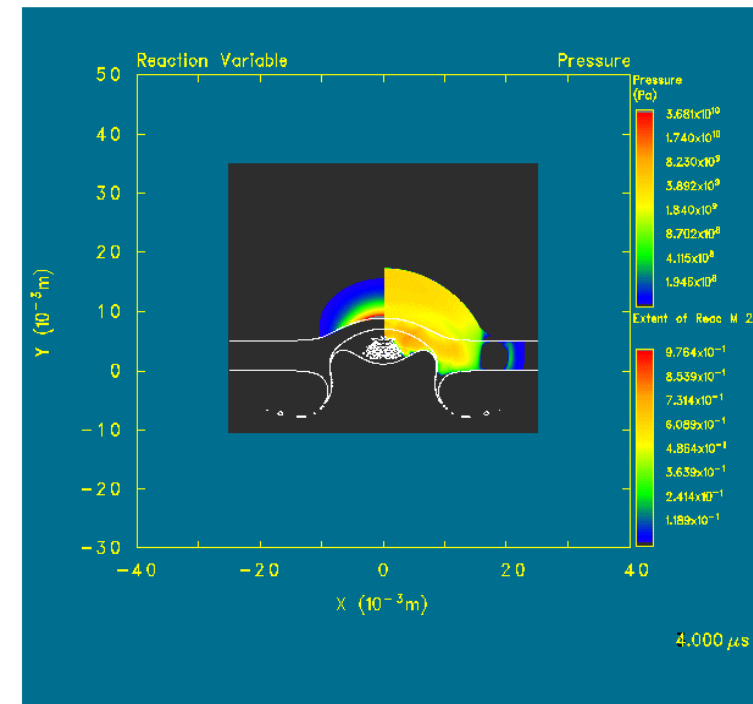
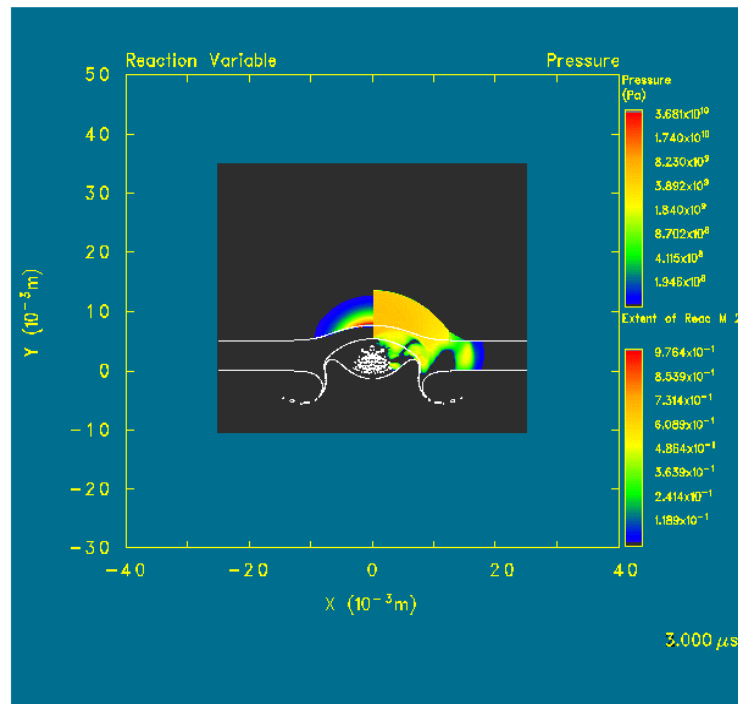


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



5-mm Spherical Projectile at 3.1-mm/ $\mu$ s  
Impacting Comp B with 5-mm cover

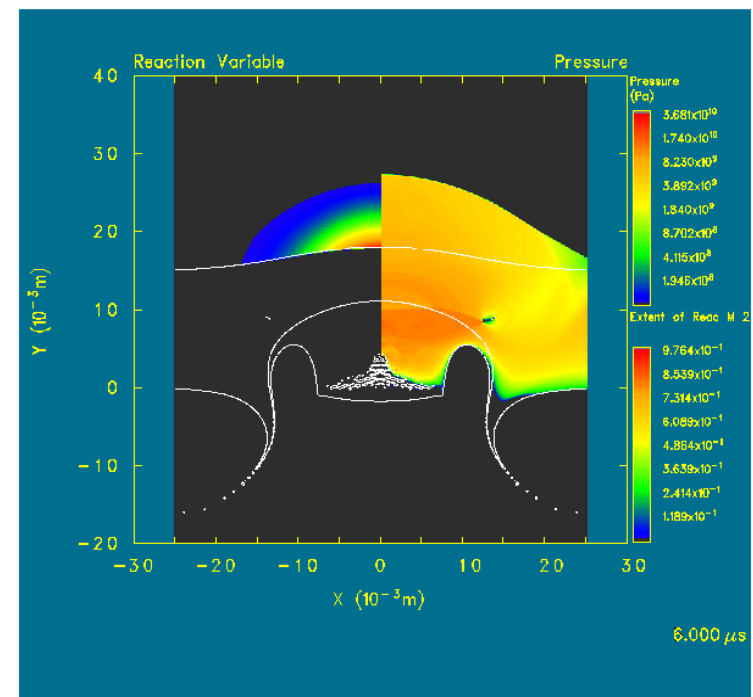
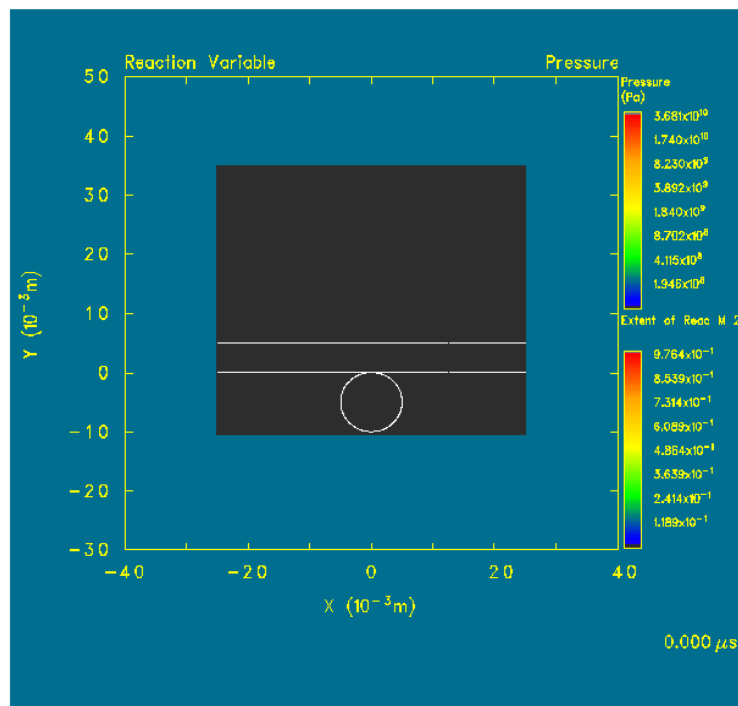


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



5-mm Spherical Projectile at 3.2-mm/ $\mu\text{s}$   
Impacting Comp B with 5-mm cover

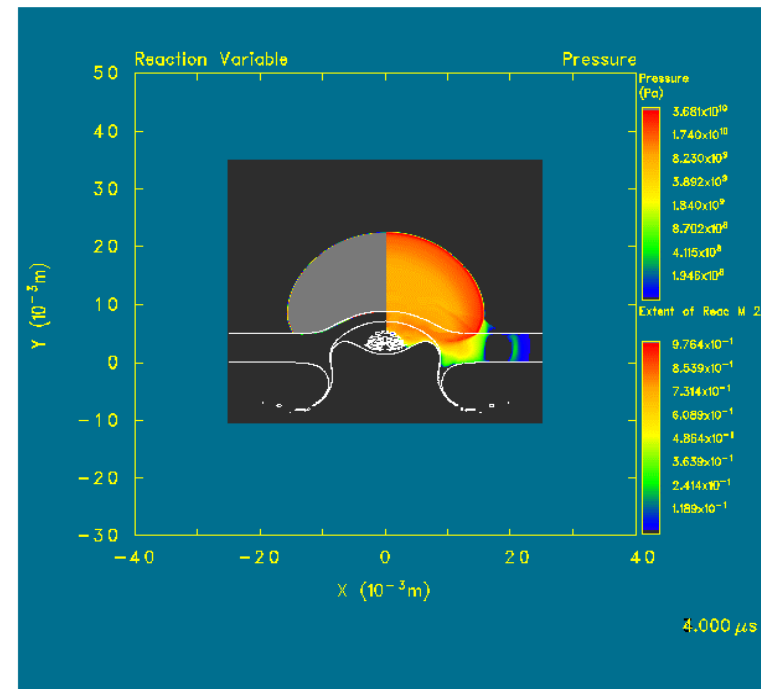
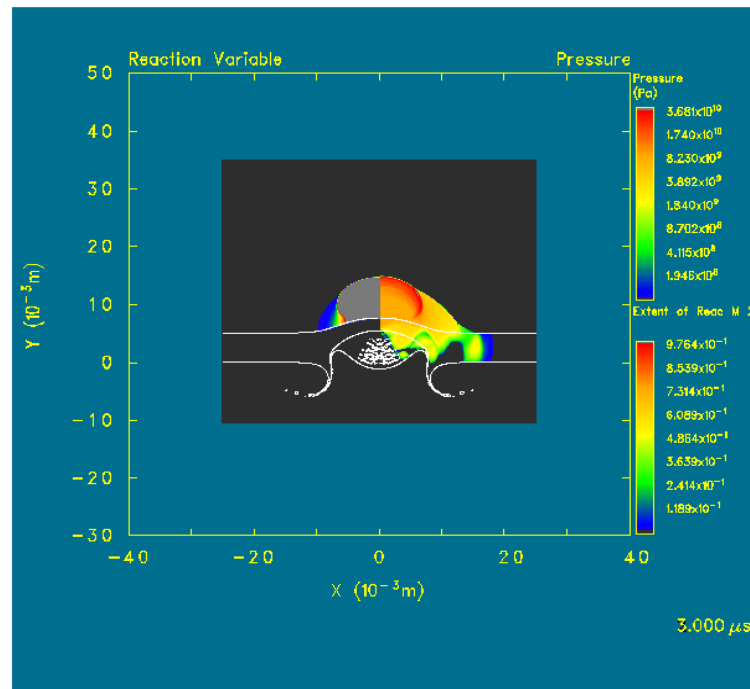


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



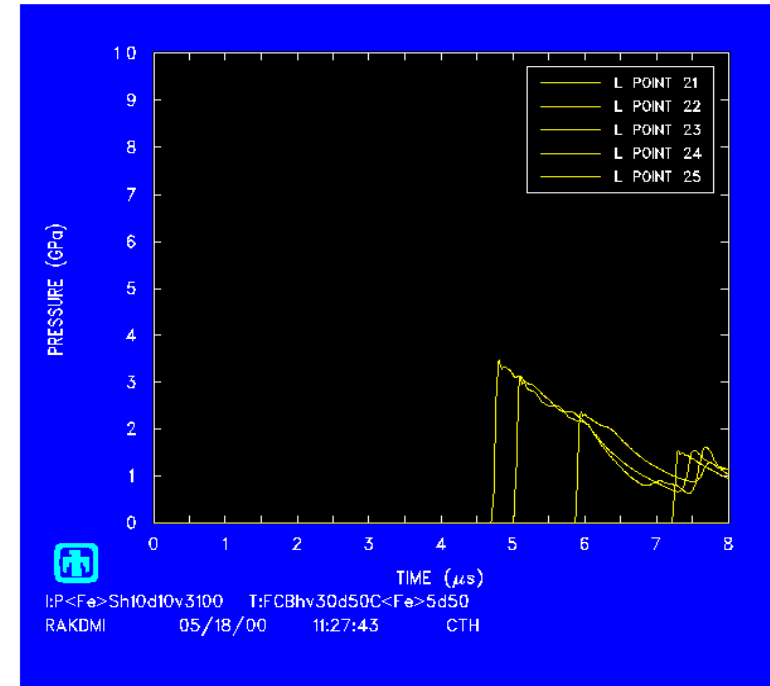
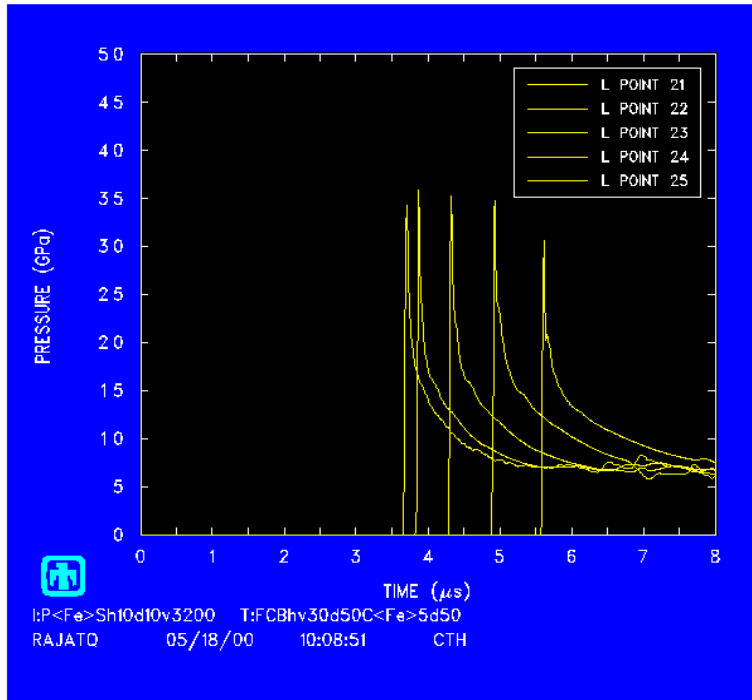
5-mm Spherical Projectile at 3.2-mm/ $\mu\text{s}$   
Impacting Comp B with 5-mm cover



# Pressure Time History Plots

Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



5-mm Spherical Projectile at 3.2-mm/ $\mu$ s (left) and 3.1-mm/ $\mu$ s (right) Impacting Comp B with 5-mm cover



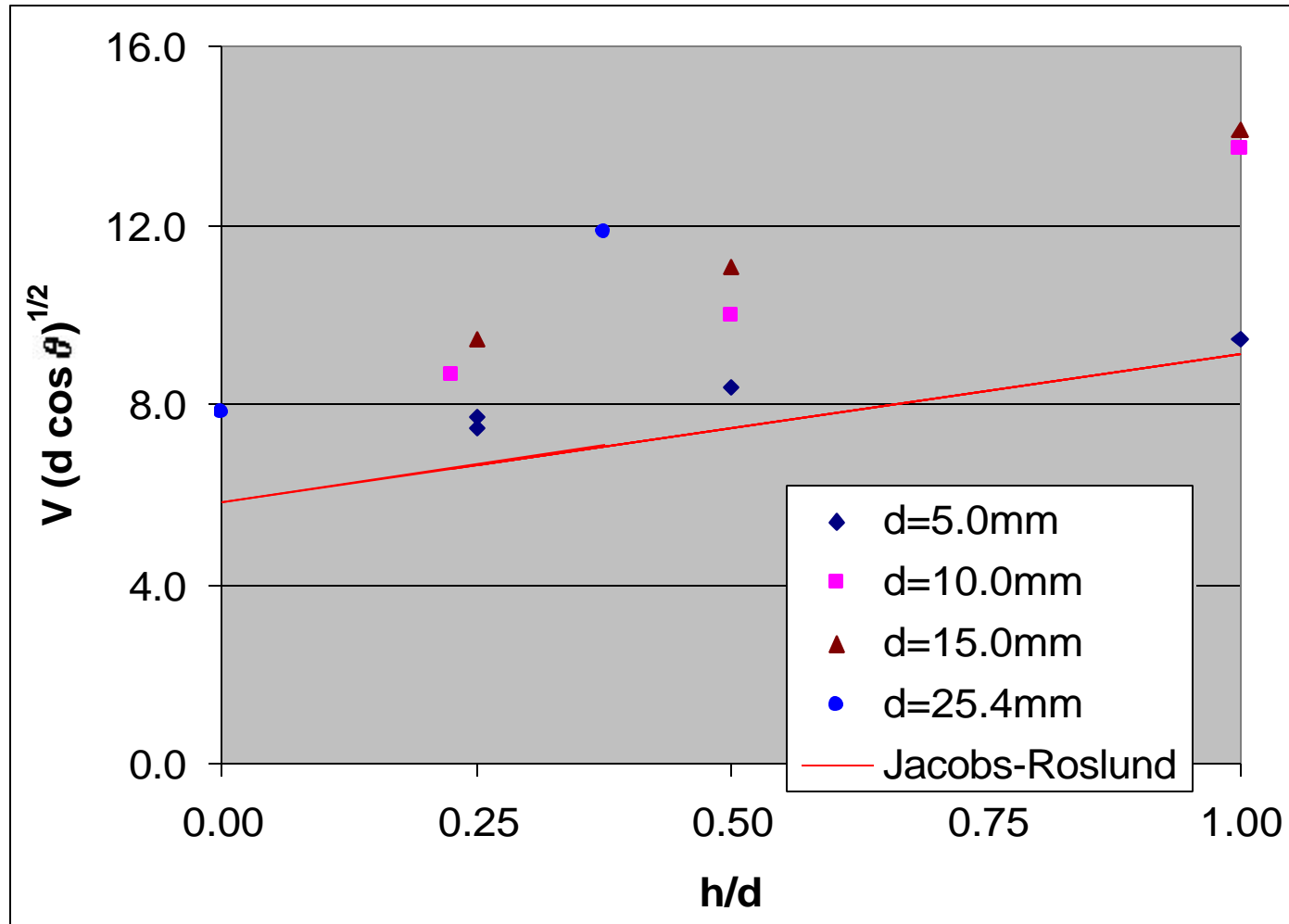


# CRITICAL VELOCITY AS A FUNCTION OF $h/d$



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



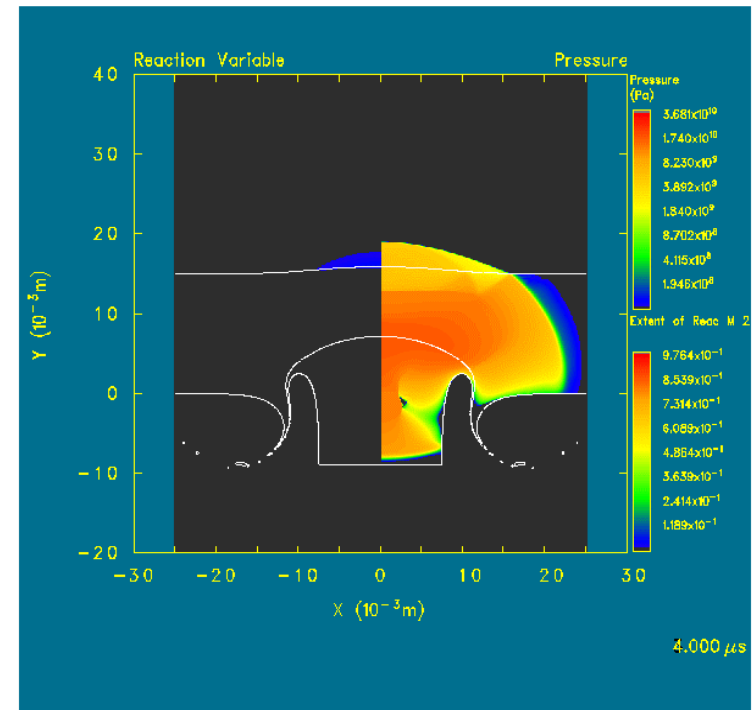
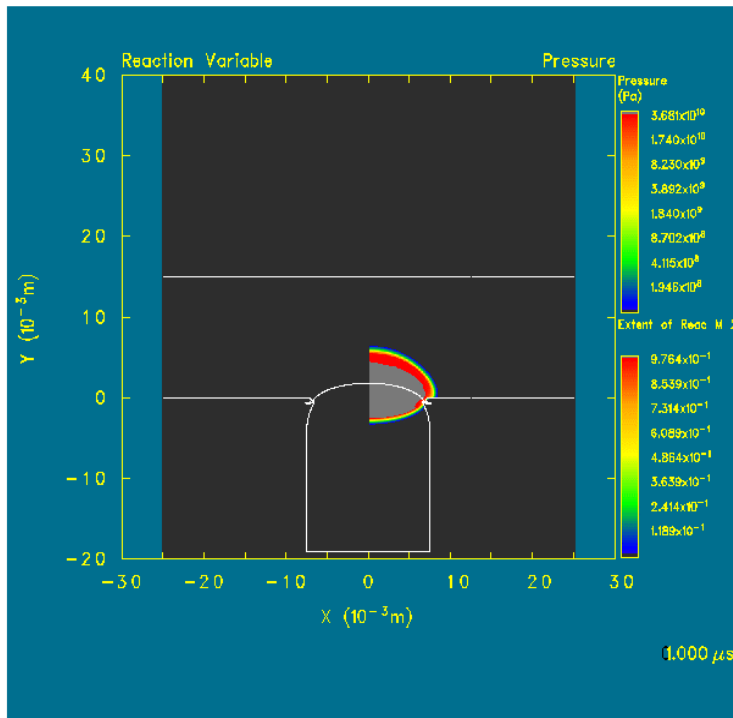


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



15 mm Cylindrical Projectile at 3.6-mm/ $\mu\text{s}$   
Impacting Comp B with 15-mm cover

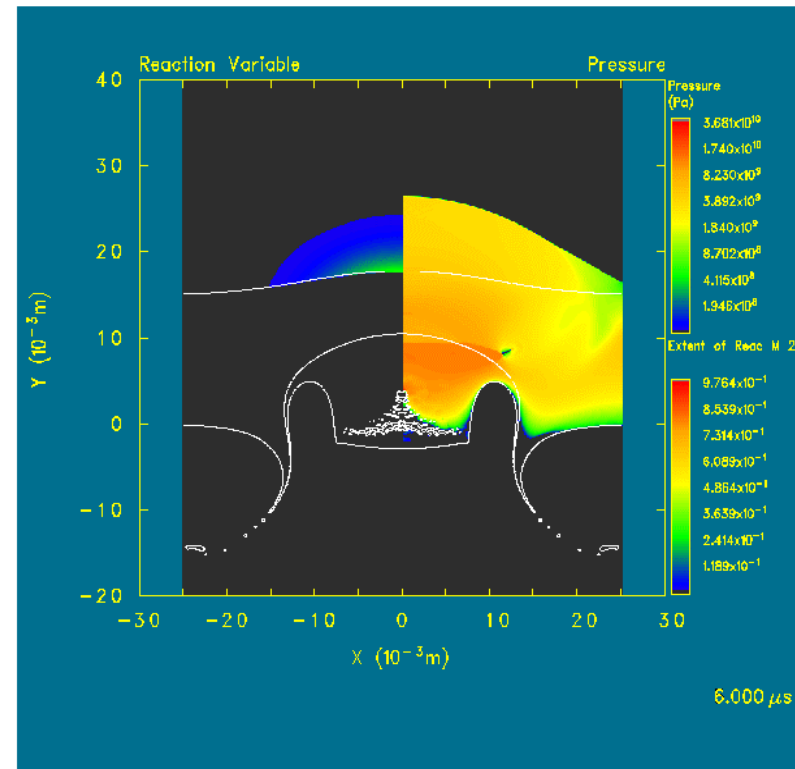
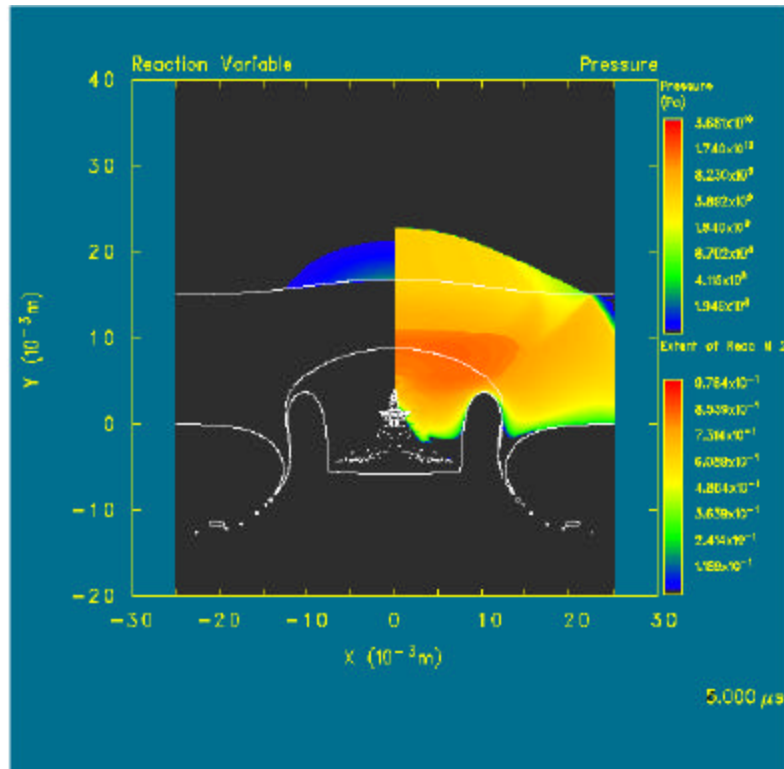


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



15-mm Cylindrical Projectile, at a vel of 3.6-mm/ $\mu\text{s}$ ,  
Impacting Comp B with 15-mm cover

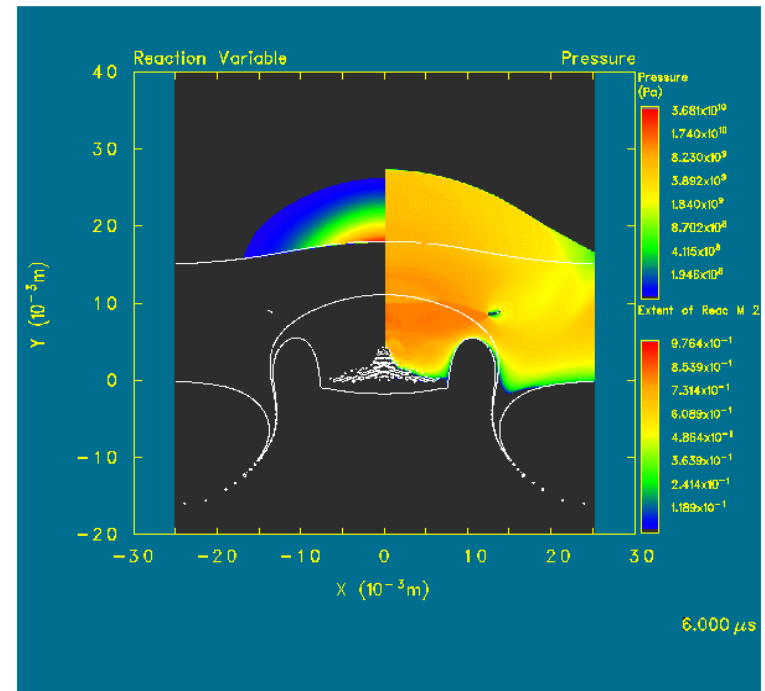
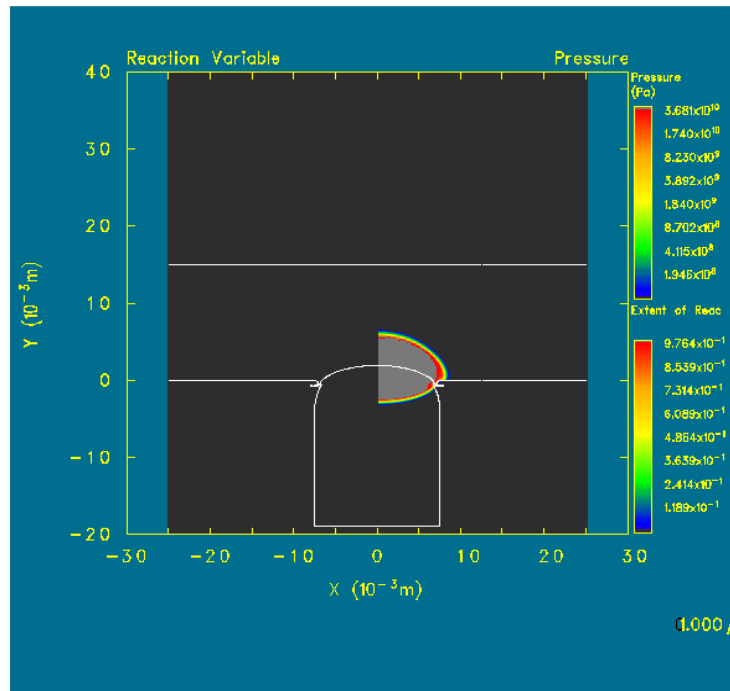


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



15-mm Cylindrical Projectile at 3.7-mm/ $\mu\text{s}$   
Impacting Comp B with 15-mm cover

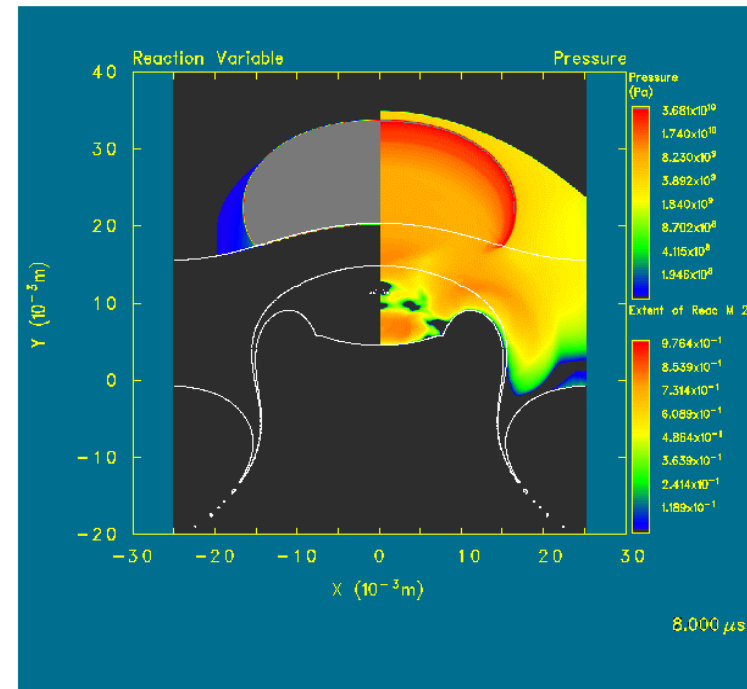
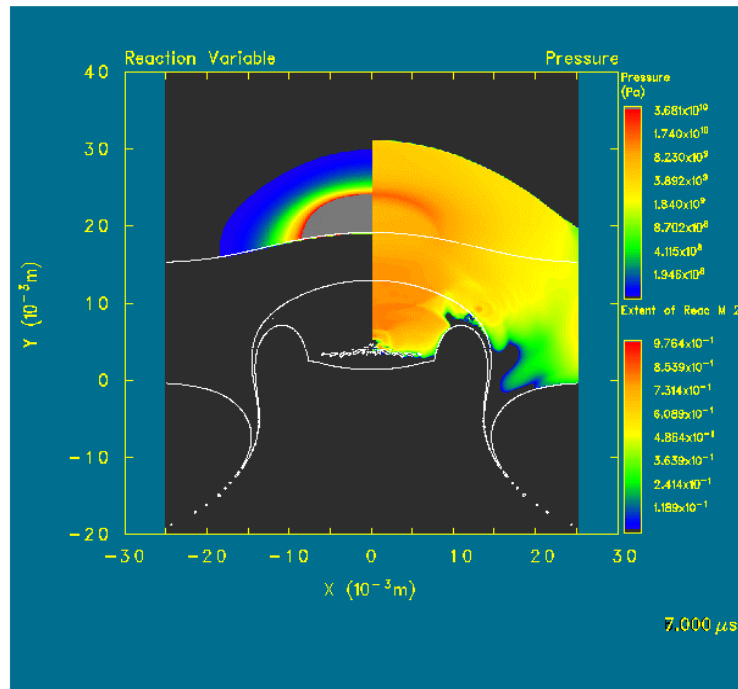


# Pressure and Reaction Variable Contour Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



15-mm Cylindrical Projectile at 3.7-mm/ $\mu\text{s}$   
Impacting Comp B with 15-mm cover

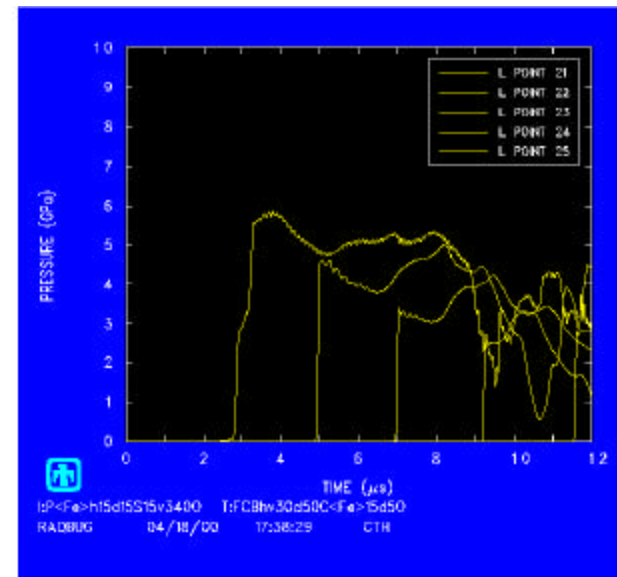
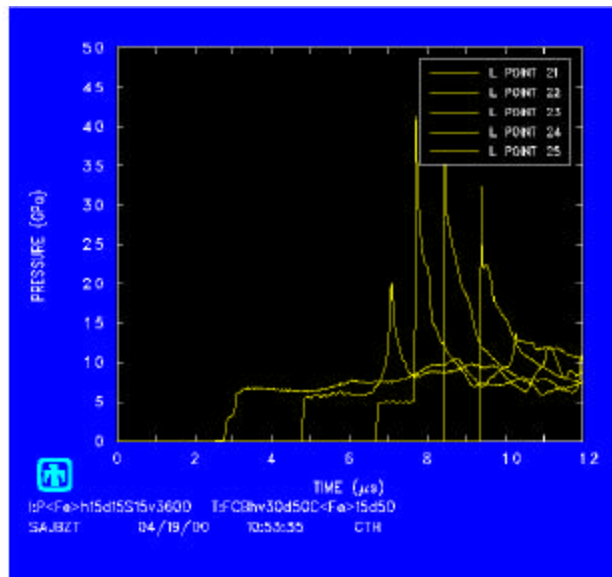


# Pressure Time History Plots



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division



15-mm Cylindrical Projectile at 3.7-mm/μs (left) and 3.6-mm/μs (right) Impacting Comp B with 15-mm cover

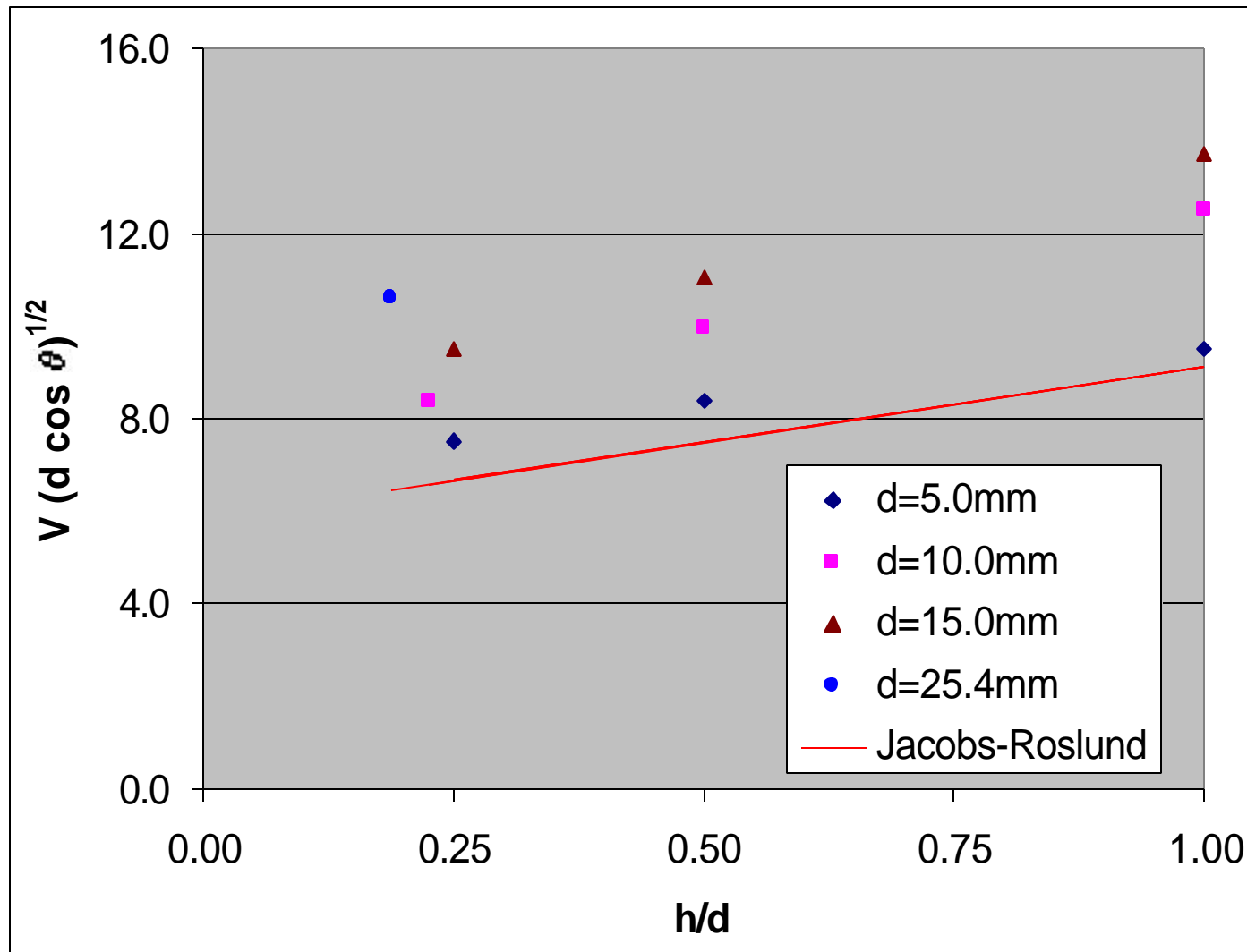


# CRITICAL VELOCITY AS A FUNCTION OF $h/d$



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division





# COMPARISON OF COMPUTED AND PREDICTED VELOCITIES



Weapons & Materials Research Directorate

Terminal Effects Division

Cover	h/d	Projectile				Zoning
h		d	q	V <sub>c</sub>	mm/μs	mm
mm		mm	°	CTH	J-R	
1.250	0.2500	5.00	0	3.35	2.98	0.1
2.500	0.5000	5.00	0	3.75	3.35	0.1
5.000	1.0000	5.00	0	4.25	4.08	0.1
2.250	0.2250	10.00	0	2.65	2.08	0.1
5.000	0.5000	10.00	0	3.15	2.37	0.1
10.000	1.0000	10.00	0	3.95	2.89	0.1
3.750	0.2500	15.00	0	2.45	1.72	0.1
7.500	0.5000	15.00	0	2.85	1.93	0.1
15.000	1.0000	15.00	0	3.55	2.36	0.1
4.763	0.1875	25.40	0	2.10	1.28	0.1
4.763	0.1875	25.40	0	2.10	1.28	0.2
4.763	0.1875	25.40	0	2.10	1.28	0.4





# CONCLUSIONS



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- .. **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IMPACT VELOCITY OF PROJECTILE AND THICKNESS OF COVER**
- ♦ **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IMPACT VELOCITY OF PROJECTILE AND ITS DIAMETER**
- ♦ **VELOCITY OF THE PROJECTILE AND SHAPE OF THE ITS TIP**
- ♦ **COMPUTED VS PREDICTED VELOCITIES**
- ♦ **J-R UNDERESTIMATES DIAMETER DEPENDENCE AT THESE HIGHER VELOCITIES**



# FUTURE PLANS



*Weapons & Materials Research Directorate*

*Terminal Effects Division*

- ♦ **COMPUTATIONS USING VARIOUS ZONE SIZES**
- ♦ **RUN COMPUTATIONS USING DIFFERENT MATERIAL OF THE PROJECTILE**
- ♦ **CHANGE THE ANGLE OF ATTACK**
- ♦ **TRANSITION FROM 2-D TO 3-D**